

Sustainable City ROCKVILLE Caring Community

FISCAL YEAR 2008 (July 2007 - June 2008)

CITY OF ROCKVILLE ANNUAL REPORT

From the City Manager



Major milestones for two of the City's most ambitious undertakings marked the beginning and end of fiscal year 2008 (FY08). The fiscal year began with dedicating the award-winning Rockville Town Square, and concluded with the City nearing completion on the rewriting of our zoning ordinance. By returning vibrancy to our Town Center, and overhauling the laws that govern our quality built environment,

Rockville is poised for the future.

An overarching theme throughout FY08 and beyond is "environmental sustainability." In October, the Mayor and Council adopted "The Strategy for a Sustainable Rockville" to ensure the City applies sound environmental practices in all of its programs and activities. Our commitment to putting environmental values into practice was evident in the decision to invest in our water distribution, sewage disposal and stormwater management systems; protect our urban forest; and encourage recycling and "green buildings."

Faced with increased service interruptions due to water main breaks, reduced fire hydrant reliability and threats to water quality, the Mayor and Council approved a 20-year, \$74 million program to replace 33 miles of water mains. The first stages of work have begun.

The Mayor and Council also adopted Rockville's first water quality ordinance. This ordinance prohibits disposing of waste oil and grease directly into the sewer and discharging of pollutants into City storm drains and waterways. The ordinance is just one facet of an expanded comprehensive stormwater management program that will improve drainage and protect streams flowing to the Chesapeake Bay.

In addition to advances in water resources management, the City's environmental values were evident in the adoption of a stronger ordinance to protect trees and forests on developing sites, approval of a single-stream recycling and semi-automated refuse collection system, and the launch of a community Green Building Program. The EPA Administrator's presentation of the prestigious President's Volunteer Service Award recognized Rockville's Commission on the Environment for its role in moving the City's agenda forward.

The Police Department expanded by two police officers in both FY08 and FY09, bringing the size of the force to 57 officers, and exceeding by two the Council's five-year-old goal to add one officer annually. The police received biannual accreditation from the Commission of Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, joining the 5 percent of the nation's 16,000 police agencies to achieve the distinction.

The police department works closely with our Public Works and Recreation and Parks departments to achieve the safest possible conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. Through our use of red light and speed cameras, traffic control devices, an aggressive sidewalk construction program and extensive dedicated bicycle/pedestrian ways, we continued to excel in this area. A crowning achievement in FY08 was the dedication of the "Sister City Friendship Bridge," an award-winning pedestrian and bike bridge spanning I-270 and connecting the community.

It is only with the support of Rockville's citizens, and their tax dollars, that the City can provide the many services and facilities the community enjoys. Citing a strong tax base and local economy, and the City government's sound financial management, two leading rating agencies (Moody's and Standard & Poor's), upgraded the City's credit standing to AAA, making Rockville the only city in Maryland with the elite rating, and one of only 55 AAA-rated municipalities in the U.S. with a population of 75,000 or less.

The City's fiscal strength allowed the Mayor and Council to again reduce the property tax rate by 1 cent and offer significant tax credit programs. With the property tax rate reduced again in FY09, in three years the rate has dropped from 32.2 cents per \$100 of assessed value to 29.2 cents.

On behalf of the City staff, I want to thank the citizens of Rockville for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community, and pledge our commitment to provide responsive municipal services as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Sincerely,

Scott Ullery
Scott Ullery, Rockville City Manager

All About the City 'Built Upon a Rock'

Each year the City of Rockville issues its Annual Report, which is an opportunity for the City to highlight for the shareholders – you, the residents – what is happening in Rockville.

The Annual Report gives residents a look at how the vision and priorities outlined by the Mayor and Council have been met during the past fiscal year and the work being done to meet them in the coming one. Fiscal years run from July 1 to June 30. Fiscal Year 2008 ended on June 30.

The Annual Report is an opportunity to highlight how the Mayor and Council, City staff and residents are working together toward the goal of making Rockville the best city and that it meets the needs of all who live, work and visit its neighborhoods.

Rockville is the third largest city in Maryland and is the seat of Montgomery County. The City occupies 13.03 square miles within the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area and is located 12 miles northwest of the nation's capital.

Rockville operates under the council-manager form of municipal government and derives its governing authority from a charter granted by the General Assembly of Maryland in 1860.

In August, *Money Magazine* ranked Rockville No. 66 in its 2008 list of "Best Places to Live in the United States." This is the second time Rockville appears on the list, with a previous ranking on the list in 2006. Ranking high in leisure and arts, the City also boasts a civic ballet, youth orchestra, art show, university, concert series and vibrant downtown.

Rockville has earned numerous distinctions through the years, but among the qualities that set the City apart in residents' minds is its sense of community.

There are dozens of characteristics that residents ranked above average during the fourth biennial survey conducted last year. Criteria used for ranking ranged from the kind of place Rockville is to raise children to the City's overall appearance to recreation programs and

centers and senior center services.

In fact, in 43 of 57 categories, residents surveyed said they rated Rockville above the national norm, including the overall quality of life and sense of community.

As Rockville closes fiscal year 2008, the City looks to a future guided by the vision of Rockville in 2020 and the associated priorities outlined by the Mayor and Council for 2008-2010.

THE VISION:

In 2020, Rockville is widely recognized as one of the nation's very best places to live and work. It has rapidly emerged as an international city with a strong presence in the global economy. Rockville has renewed itself, and it continues to adapt successfully to changing circumstances, while at the same time preserving its rich history and maintaining its strong stable neighborhoods. As the Montgomery County seat, Rockville is not just a center of government; it is also Montgomery County's commercial and cultural capital. ■

Paving the Way for a Hometown Community for Generations to Come

The Mayor and Council are committed to creating a "green" community and have taken several steps in fiscal year 2008 toward creating a sustainable city. Rockville stands out for its work to promote new and improved recycling programs, parks and stream restoration and to design and build green facilities.

Over the course of fiscal year 2008, Rockville has:

- Implemented a single-stream recycling program
- Purchased wind energy to power 15 percent of the City's electricity needs
- Installed electrical meters at City facilities to track energy use over time
- Installed LED bulbs in all 45 of the City's traffic signals and is conducting a pilot program to use LED bulbs in streetlights
- Enacted the "greenest" forest and tree preservation ordinance of any municipality in the state of Maryland
- Established a mandatory 50 percent commercial and multi-family recycling program
- Sponsored an electronics recycling collection event at City Hall in June 2008, when approximately 220 vehicles dropped off a tractor-trailer volume of materials
- Established a comprehensive



Efforts continue in FY09 to protect the environment through programs such as single-stream recycling.

- series of Environment and Sustainability Web pages on the City Web site
- Established a sustainability listserve, environmental guidelines and wildlife policies.

The City's new single-stream recycling program makes it easy for residents to recycle. The program has also been expanded to include plastics. Residents no longer have to sort recyclable items, and can place all reusable goods into one bin. The Mayor and Council have proposed to authorize Montgomery County to implement its existing multi-family and commercial recycling program in Rockville.

Rockville has also succeeded in mitigating the erosion of the City's streams, achieving the water quality standards set out in the Chesapeake Bay Agreement. Rockville's streets,

parks and public and private areas are "clean and green," and business and residential recycling rates are among the highest in the nation.

The City now plans to explore a system that will capture and re-use heat at the Rockville Municipal Swim Center, look into subsidizing home energy audits for residents and use biodiesel fuels in all 138 City diesel vehicles by early 2009. There is also work to "green up" the City's zoning ordinance and comprehensive master plan by encouraging mixed-use redevelopment, strengthening buffer zones, expanding alternative energy generation opportunities, reducing impervious pavement and encouraging the use of parking structures and green roofs.

Rockville is also currently developing a green building program for new and renovated residential and commercial properties. The City anticipates updating its existing building codes with 2006 national recommended industry codes, which mandate a minimum number of green features. The City also plans to incorporate additional green building features to supplement the national recommended industry codes, and it expects to identify environmentally-friendly features and encourage compliance through incentives. ■

Mayor and Council Envision Bright Future for City

During its bi-annual retreat in January, the Rockville Mayor and Council developed its 10-year vision for Rockville and identified the short-term priorities to pursue over the next two years to achieve that vision. The vision focuses on the following seven major themes: **Distinct Neighborhoods, One City; A Cultural Destination; Green City; Quality Built Environment, Exceptional City Services; Economic Development and Sustainability; and Community Engagement.**

Over the Fiscal Year 2008, the Mayor and Council have advocated for and enacted plans to ensure that these priorities are being met. ■



Mayor Susan R. Hoffmann

Susan R. Hoffmann was elected mayor of Rockville in November 2007 after serving four terms as a Rockville councilmember.

Her family has lived in the West End of Rockville since 1988. She is the grandmother of Joseph Emerson and Anthony Jon Hoffmann.

Hoffmann is a member of the Montgomery County Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League (MML) and serves on the MML Legislative Committee. She is active in the Washington Metropolitan Area Council of Governments. She is also a member of the Community and Economic Development Committee of the National League of Cities.

As mayor, Hoffmann is a strong supporter of environmental issues and advocates for a "clean and green Rockville."

She has championed the fight against climate change and is a proponent of Rockville's Sustainable Strategy.

What do you love about Rockville?

I love how each neighborhood is unique; yet, we all come together in our support for and commitment to the city as a whole.

What is it you are looking forward to happening or building in fiscal 2009?

I am looking forward to the final visioning of Rockville Pike as one of our great boulevards.

What do you see as the greatest accomplishment of the City in FY2008?

I think we had many great accomplishments, but there are two that stand out for me:

- The obvious success of Rockville Town Square
- The modernization of the Rockville Zoning Ordinance



Councilmember John Britton

John Britton was elected to serve his first term as a Rockville councilmember in November 2007.

Originally from New Jersey, Britton and his wife, Katherine, now reside in the West End neighborhood with their three children, all of whom are attending Montgomery County public schools.

Britton intends to use his environmental expertise and experience to work toward increasing environmentally sustainable, or "green," development, and identified his goal to create a more walkable Rockville by addressing pedestrian safety concerns.

What do you love about Rockville?

The people of Rockville, parks, neighborhoods, the people, City staff, dining places, recreational activities, the people, cultural events, civic involvement. Did I mention the people?

What is it you are looking forward to happening or building in fiscal 2009?

Zoning ordinance revision; enactment of an environmental sustainability ordinance; greater and more creative enhancements to our pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

What do you see as the greatest accomplishment of the City in FY2008?

Tremendous fiscal responsibility and management on the part of City staff enabling us to maintain City activities and services in an era of regional cutbacks.



Councilmember Piotr Gajewski

Piotr Gajewski was elected to Rockville's council in November 2007.

Gajewski lives in King Farm with his wife, Tisha, son, Devin, and daughters, Charlie and Michelle. Gajewski is Music Director and Conductor of the National Philharmonic.

Gajewski is committed to preserving the "hometown" character of Rockville's neighborhoods, while ensuring infrastructure and services keep up with growth. He believes in improving public safety, investing in the environment and providing tax relief.

What do you love about Rockville?

Rockville's distinct neighborhoods, parks, the Town Square, vast numbers of entertainment choices, and open and responsive government.

What is it you are looking forward to happening or building in fiscal 2009?

The development of a comprehensive cultural plan, Maryland Monarchs soccer games, the review of the Master Plan, finding more ways to promote Rockville, and continued renewal of downtown, including the possibility of a future police station at the Old Post Office building.

What do you see as the greatest accomplishment of the City in FY2008?

Two far reaching accomplishments are the approval of Fiber Optic Service for all Rockville residents and the commitment to embark on a much needed upgrade of Rockville's water infrastructure. Additionally, the adoption of better protocols for Mayor and Council rules of procedure, and financial management policies.



Councilmember Phyllis Marcuccio

Phyllis Marcuccio is currently serving her second term as a Rockville councilmember.

Marcuccio graduated from Richard Montgomery High School and has lived in Rockville for more than 50 years. She has a love for this community and has watched it grow from a small "farmers town" of 2,500 people, to what it is today.

She is the former president of the East Rockville Civic Association, and her life has been filled with community-minded activities and service.

Marcuccio has always had an interest in science; she worked at the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) for 38 years and strives to bring more science-related programs and activities to Rockville.

What do you love about Rockville?

I treasure the residents of our city who make it a wonderful, warm hometown that I am proud to live in.

What is it you are looking forward to happening or building on in fiscal 2009?

Continuing the efforts to bring a Science Center to the city, paying down the debt on our Town Center garages, and passing a fair, comprehensive zoning ordinance revision that meets the needs of the city's citizens as well as businesses.

What do you see as the greatest accomplishment of the City in FY2008?

A modest, yet meaningful tax relief program for another year. The full impact of major policy decisions made in FY08 are not yet measurable; i.e., refuse changes, forest and tree preservation codes, stormwater management controls, and environmental guidelines for a "greener" city.



Councilmember Anne Robbins

Anne Robbins is serving her fifth term as a Rockville councilmember. Throughout her service to the community, Robbins has been an advocate for strengthening Rockville's neighborhoods and has been a staunch supporter of programs for Rockville's senior citizens.

She is a member of the Montgomery County Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League and also serves as vice chair of the Human Services Policy Committee of the Washington Metropolitan Area Council of Governments.

Robbins and her husband, Dave, a former Rockville councilmember, have been residents of Rockville for more than 35 years. Their children, Sean and Brennan, have both graduated from high schools in Rockville.

What do you love about Rockville?

Despite urban sprawl throughout the region, Rockville has retained its identity as a great community to live, work, play and raise a family (and retire).

What is it you are looking forward to happening or building on in fiscal 2009?

Continuing to reduce the City's tax rate, successfully implementing the new refuse and recycling program and opening the new Thomas Farm Community Center.

What do you see as the greatest accomplishment of the City in FY2008?

In FY2008, for the third consecutive year, we provided our citizens tax relief, lowering the City tax rate and providing a \$100 homeowners tax credit.

Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Highlights

Pedestrian safety:

Rockville's efforts through the Department of Public Works Traffic and Transportation Division to ensure pedestrian safety in fiscal year 2008 moved forward with construction of 3,890 feet of sidewalks.

Audible Pedestrian Signal (APS) countdown systems and high-intensity activated crosswalks are being installed at Rockville crosswalks.

The "Sister City Friendship Bridge" was dedicated in October,

creating a bicycle/pedestrian crossing at Interstate 270 and Route 28.

Traffic Safety:

Rockville City Police Department continues to ensure resident safety with two new red light cameras at the intersections of West Gude Drive and Gaither Road, and at North Stonestreet and Park Road. Revenue from speed camera enforcement in residential and school zones funds City programs for traffic safety.

Water system improvements:

The Department of Public Works began replacing more than 30 miles of aging water pipes, a project projected to span the next 20 years. Rockville also has been replacing residential water meters. The program will last three years and will replace 10,000 meters. The project will result in more accurate water usage readings.

Environmental sustainability:

The City is working to construct

the eco-friendly Thomas Farm Community Center that will feature pervious surfaces – those that absorb rainwater and runoff – and a geo-thermal heating and cooling system, among other eco-friendly features. The center is expected to open in January.

Stormwater treatment and stream restoration:

The City completed a stream restoration project at Alsace Lane; a stream improvement project at

Rockcrest; a stormwater management retrofit at Carnation Drive; stormwater management and park improvements at Maryvale Park; and built a stormwater pond at RedGate Golf Course.

Citizen engagement:

The Information and Technology Department made Mayor and Council meetings available for viewing anytime by using video-on-demand.

Continued on page 3...

Economic Development and Sustainability

Among the seven initiatives the Mayor and Council outlined in their vision for the City is ensuring Rockville has a strong and diverse economy. That means maintaining its reputation as a desirable place to do business and working to have the business community engage in civic and community activities.

Thomas Farm Community Center

The Thomas Farm Community Center is an eco-friendly facility that will not only serve and enhance the community, but its "green" features – pervious surfaces and a geo-thermal energy source – are intended to curb maintenance and upkeep costs, and save the City money. The Thomas Farm Community Center is another way the City is ensuring economic sustainability for years to come. It is expected to open in January.

Hotel Tax to Benefit City

City officials successfully lobbied for a 2 percent hotel tax that will go into effect in October. The tax will be used to partially cover costs of providing roads, as well as police and recreation and parks

services. Additionally, the state law that allows Rockville to enact a hotel tax, requires that 3.5 percent of the money collected be distributed to the Montgomery County Conference and Visitors Bureau, which markets the region to travelers.

POPULATION*

Estimated Population: 63,030
Projected Population: 68,800 in 2010
Projected Population: 73,960 in 2020

AAA Bond Rating Awarded

In September 2007, the City received a rare AAA Bond Rating by the world's top rating agencies, Moody's Investor Services and Standard & Poor's, placing

Rockville among the elite municipalities nationwide, and making it the only municipality in the state to earn the highest rating.

Rockville was upgraded because of the size and stability of the City's tax base, its robust local economy and the City government's sound financial management. With the AAA designation, the City is now assured of the most competitive bidding for future bonds at the lowest interest rates.

The City Supports Historic Property Owners

The City of Rockville wants to make it as easy as possible for historic property owners to maintain



Rockville's history is an important part of the City's identity. The City is dedicated to helping owners of historic homes to maintain their residences through tax credits and workshops.

their residences. As many residents know, county, state and federal tax credits are available to help supplement the costs of maintaining these properties, and now, Rockville is taking an extra step to support its historic districts.

Historic property owners can bring their state tax credit forms to the City's Community Planning and Development Services Department in City Hall, to meet with professionals who will complete these forms, at no cost.

The City also held in January a Rehabilitation Tax Credit Workshop

QUALITY OF LIFE

Median Commute Time: 28.5 min.**
Commute of 45 min. or Longer: 25.7%**
Walk or Bike to Work: 3%**

to make the process simpler. More workshops will be scheduled for the upcoming months.

Energy Performance Pays Off for City

The City saved more than \$200,000 in utility costs last year through an energy performance project. ■

Continued from page 2...

New parks:

The Department of Recreation and Parks brought two new parks to Rockville. Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park is nearing completion and the Mayor and Council dedicated Karn Park in June.

Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park honors the beloved Rockville resident who spread his message of hope and peace, and Karn Park honors the legacy of a family who played an important role in building many of the homes in what is now Rockville's West End.

Rooftop at Town Center:

Department of Recreation and Parks brought residents together at the First Friday Rooftop Parties, atop the Rockville Arts and Innovation Center.

The Arts:

The Department of Recreation and Parks Arts Division added four new public art displays, a concert series and several quality productions from the City's many performance troupes.

Things to look for in FY 2009:

- Work will continue to install

Audible Pedestrian Signals (APS) at 45 City intersections.

- Work on park improvements, pond modifications and a stream restoration project at College Gardens Park is expected to begin in November.
- Shuttle buses that will serve Town Center are expected to begin operating by the end of the year. The shuttles will provide transit service to Town Center, making the heart of Rockville more accessible and convenient. A federal grant was awarded for the shuttles and the program will

be operated by Montgomery County Ride On.

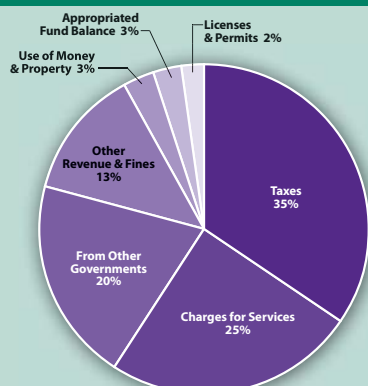
- Semi-Automated, Once-Per-Week Refuse Collection is set to begin in October. The program will begin in three-month phases with full citywide implementation over a 12-15 month period. Each phase will allow for education and outreach, refuse and recycling cart delivery and follow-up.
- The Water Line Replacement Program moves forward as work to replace more than 30 miles of aging water pipes throughout

the community continues. Many of the current pipes, installed before the mid-1970s, have interior corrosion, known as tuberculation, and can lead to impaired water quality and decreased water flow. Aging pipes are also more susceptible to breaking, which is disruptive to the City's customers, causes property damage and is expensive to repair.

For more information on the fiscal 2009 budget, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/government/budget/index.html. ■

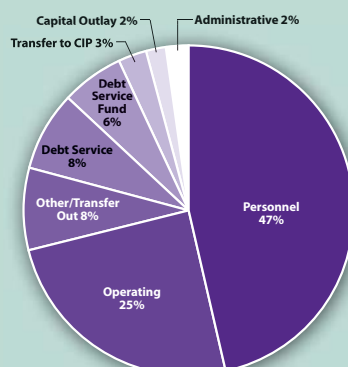
FY 2008 Budget At A Glance

BELOW ARE THREE CHARTS SUMMARIZING THE ADOPTED FY08 CITY REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES



ALL FUNDS SUMMARY/TOTAL REVENUES

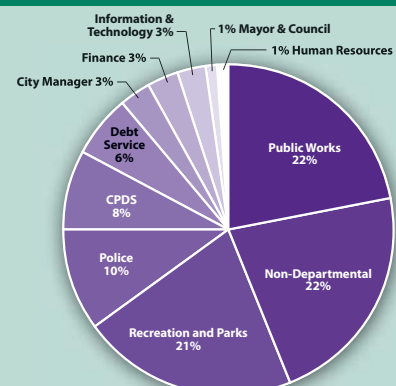
Taxes	32,835,178
Charges for Services	23,000,115
From Other Governments	18,715,699
Other Revenue & Fines	12,111,464
Use of Money & Property	2,760,662
Appropriated Fund Balance	2,371,207
Licenses & Permits	2,014,500
TOTAL REVENUES	\$93,808,825



ALL FUNDS SUMMARY/EXPENDITURES

Personnel	44,537,744
Operating	23,062,109
Other/Transfers Out	7,662,199
Debt Service	7,282,092
Transfer to CIP	2,365,002
Capital Outlay	1,971,287
Administrative	1,417,500
Subtotal	\$88,297,933
Debt Service Fund ⁽¹⁾	5,510,892
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$93,808,825

(1) The Debt Service Fund receives transfers from other funds to pay off general obligation bonds. Since these transfers are already listed as Debt Service expenditures within originating funds, there is a double-counting effect when the Debt Service Fund records the same expenditures. For this reason, the Debt Service Fund is isolated.



ALL FUNDS SUMMARY/EXPENDITURES BY DEPT.

Public Works	20,644,809
Non-Departmental	20,212,464
Recreation and Parks	19,283,496
Police	9,455,841
Community Planning and Development Services	7,184,377
Debt Service	5,510,892
City Manager	3,116,926
Finance	2,726,005
Information and Technology	3,266,938
Mayor and Council	1,389,543
Human Resources	1,017,534
TOTAL	\$93,808,825

Distinct Neighborhoods, One City

The individual neighborhoods that make up a unified city, and the importance of recognizing and maintaining them are among the Mayor and Council priorities.

Helping Neighborhoods Unite

Several Neighborhood Resources Program initiatives supported community events during the past year through the Neighborhood Matching Grant Program and a Neighborhood Network Learning Series Workshop.

Three matching grants totaling \$2,650 were put toward neighborhood events, such as the Lincoln Park Holiday Party, Woodley Gardens West Holiday Party, Twinbrook Friends and Family Pool Party. The Neighborhood Network Workshop provided instructions, resources and useful tips to make neighborhood events a success.

Legacy at Lincoln Park Stands Out

Legacy at Lincoln Park is an

innovative development project that serves as a national model for affordable housing. The project allows cities and counties to replace aging and blighted public housing projects with strong, stable, mixed-income communities.

The re-designed Lincoln Park development is the first of its kind in Montgomery County. The development is a testament to the vitality and growth of downtown Rockville, and stands as a promise from the

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Exceptional City Services

The City of Rockville provides a full complement of services that are high quality and well funded. City staff also has a strong customer service focus.

Community Helping Others

The Rockville Youth Recreation Fund awarded \$56,694 in scholarships to children in financial need. The Recreation Fund provides financial assistance to those who would not otherwise be able to participate in recreation programs and activities thereby giving all children the chance to participate in programs that enhance and strengthen their interests and skills. For more information on the fund, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/financial.htm.

Shuttles Come to Rockville Town Center

The City received a federal grant to purchase buses that will provide frequent and convenient access to Town Center with connections at Rockville Metro Station and Falls Grove Transit Center. The City transferred the money to Montgomery County, which will operate the buses through Ride On.

The buses will be "branded" as the Town Center shuttle. The county is currently implementing the graphic design created by the City and the new buses are scheduled to start operating by the end of the year.



An Audible Pedestrian Signal at the intersection of Richard Montgomery Drive and Fleet Street helps visually impaired pedestrians to safely cross.

New Technologies Improve Pedestrian Safety

The Department of Public Works and Transportation and Traffic



Rockville City Workers are diligent in their maintenance of the fire hydrants in the City.

Division have worked to increase pedestrian safety throughout Rockville's communities. The City installed in-roadway warning lights, paddle signs and signs that alert drivers about a state law that mandates motorists must stop for pedestrians in the crosswalk.

Work has also recently begun to determine the effectiveness of new pedestrian crossing signals in the City. The High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk signal, which is similar to a pedestrian crossing signal but has a different signal operation. When a pedestrian arrives at the crosswalk and pushes the button, the signal would go to flashing yellow, then solid yellow, then flashing red, then solid red to allow the pedestrian to cross. The signal would then turn off. The drivers would know to slow down during the yellow and stop during red. The pedestrian would be able to start crossing when the signal is flashing red. The signal has generated a high percentage of driver yield rate in Tucson, Ariz., where it has been widely used.

Additionally, Audible Pedestrian Signal (APS) countdown systems and high-intensity activated crosswalks are being installed at all of Rockville's 45 crosswalks.

New Efforts Help Embrace Diversity

New initiatives were started. Several documents regarding registration and financial aid for City recreation programs were translated into Spanish and Mandarin Chinese for public use. E-marketing efforts to better publicize services and programs offered were accomplished through

on-line surveys, e-mail blasts, Web site upgrade and course updates.

Prompt Clean-ups and Fixes

The Department of Public Works responds quickly and efficiently when emergencies, including heavy storms and a water main break outside of City limits. City crews worked to clear fallen limbs and debris almost immediately. City employees worked to restore things to working order, and make road and sidewalk travel safe.

Public Works responded quickly to alert Rockville residents that their water was safe to drink, following a massive water main break in the county. City workers also provided clean water to those without access in the emergency situation.

FINANCIAL*

Median Annual Income: \$82,640
Job Growth Since 2000: 14.41%**

Building an Effective Team

Rockville's High Performance Organization (HPO) aims to enhance performance Citywide by encouraging employees at all levels to recognize and use their leadership, management and decision-making abilities.

HPO team leaders were honored with the Innovation Award on June 6 by the Local Government Personnel Association of Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. (LGPA), for their creation of the City's Customer Service Action Team to market customer service standards citywide and to ensure the customer satisfaction is always the primary goal and also for Organizational Development initiatives that drive professional development and training opportunities.

Training to Serve You Better

The Traffic and Transportation Division attends multiple training sessions including, Emerging Trends in Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning held by the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals, Traffic Calming administered by the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Pedestrian Safety Workshop administered by Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. ■

Safety

Keeping Our Children Safe

The Safe Routes to School Program was held in nine elementary schools and Walk to School Day saw the highest participation in four-year history.

Rockville City Police Recognized for Keeping Community Safe

The Rockville City Police Department ensures the safety of the thousands of residents and visitors in Rockville. Numerous officers and members of the City Police Department earned recognition for their outstanding achievements that went above the call of duty.



Chief T.N. Treschuk demonstrates one of the City's Segways that were purchased to help with parking enforcement.

Department awards:

- Recognized for Excellence in Maryland Chief's Challenge Program
- Received "Pace Setter Award" for seat belt compliance
- Received State of Maryland Award for overall Crime Prevention Programming
- Sgt. Ronald Merritt -- Received State of Maryland Crime Prevention Award for security surveys
- Capt. Robert Rappoport -- Completed the FBI National Academy Session 230 for Police Administrators

Public Safety Awards:

- Distinguished Service Citation
- Officer Michelle Trotter
- Police Communications Officer Alice Friskhorn
- Officer Jon Berry
- Cpl. Phil Lew
- Cpl. Ali Zeighani

Meritorious Service Citation:

- Capt. Timothy Marsh
- Lt. Alan Rawlins
- Sgt. James Walsh
- Sgt. Ronald Merritt
- Cpl. Ken Matney
- Officer Patrick Mancuso
- Officer Ryan Street
- Officer Michael Sullivan

National Night Out Brings Neighbors Together

This year marked the 25th anniversary of National Night Out Against Crime, with neighborhoods community-wide taking a stance on crime and violence prevention. Neighborhoods gathered on Aug. 5 for food, friends and talks with Rockville Police. The event is held to showcase and strengthen community support toward crime prevention, and this year, more than 35 neighborhoods held block parties to celebrate and show their unity. ■



Councilmember Phyllis Marcuccio talks with eight-year Falls Bend resident, Melissa Cetola, during the 25th annual National Night Out event that is held every August. The event promotes crime prevention through block parties. In Rockville, at least 35 neighborhoods throughout the city held block parties to get to know their neighbors and to show their unity in preventing violence in their communities.

Green City

Rockville is a leader in environmentally sustainable development that protects and enhances the community's quality of life.

Stormwater Management Key to Environment

The Environmental Management Division is working with restaurant owners to ensure they are operating in an environmentally conscious way, particularly in regard to grease traps. The City also set up new Web pages on ways to practice "green" living. To learn more, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/.

The City also ensured that Carnation Drive and I-270 Industrial Park stormwater management pond retrofits were built, and with new legislation passed by Rockville this year, the department can expand the stormwater management program.

City Drinking Water In Good Health

Rockville's goal is to provide residents and businesses with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. In 2007, Rockville Water met all of the drinking water health standards established by the U.S. Department of the Environment. The Rockville Water Treatment Plant provides water to approximately 46,500 people who live and work in the City.

Staff tested the drinking water for more than 80 different potential contaminants. Many of the tests did not find even a trace amount of contaminant in the water.

Keep it Green

In the past fiscal year, the City continued efforts toward a green city. The City implemented major changes to the Forest and Tree Preservation ordinance.

- Other green initiatives include:
- Distributed more than 600 tree seedlings to students in the Rockville
 - Installed 63,500 spring bulbs, pansies and annual plants in City flower beds
 - Installed 634 trees along City rights-of-way and in paths
 - Established an adopt-a-stream program and organized 15 stream clean-ups

Nature Center Offers the Green

Several annual programs continue to grow and thrive. The 6th Annual Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale in April helped families explore nature in the City. In addition, the Junior Naturalist Club for pre-teens and early teens was added to the center's curriculum.

In the new fiscal year, the center



Mayor Susan R. Hoffmann talks with a resident during the annual Memorial Day ceremony.

will install an interactive exhibit in its lower level to educate visitors on the importance of environmental stewardship and the actions residents can take toward creating a more sustainable watershed.

Two Wheels, Cleaner Than Four

Rockville encourages bicycling as

alternate transportation by requiring commercial developments to install on-site bicycle facilities – storage, bike racks, shower facilities, and on-street bicycle lanes and shared use paths.

The proposed zoning ordinance also requires commercial and multi-family developments to provide bicycle storage and showers. The City has installed bicycle lanes on E. Middle Lane and on the south side of Beall Avenue between S. Washington Street and Route 355 and along Gibbs Street.

Rockville, in partnership with Montgomery County, also upgraded the bicycle path along Baltimore Road between Rockville High School and Rock Creek Trail.

City planners updated Rockville's bicycle map in May to show the existing routes in the City and immediately adjacent routes in the County. ■

Quality Built Environment

Rockville is a beautiful city, and a model of quality development. It works to ensure its buildings conform to the highest environmental and design standards. Great attention is given to ensuring high quality materials and technologies are incorporated in construction.

Pedestrian Safety at Intersections

The Rockville Traffic and Transportation staff works with Traffic and Transportation Commission to identify the worst intersections for pedestrians using accident reports and evaluating the existing conditions. The City will continue to evaluate intersections every two years.



The annual Walk to School Day, which is part of the Safe Routes to School Program, was held in nine elementary schools and saw the highest participation since it began four years ago.

Distinct Neighborhoods, One City

Continued from page 6...

City to preserve and keep alive the history of this nearly century-old neighborhood.

Extreme Makeover Brings Community Together

ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition came to Rockville in June to give thanks to the Lincoln Park Community Center for the work it does with the community, especially to help Rockville families in need.

The show remodeled the library at the center to include hundreds of new books, as well as a colorful children's mural. Also donated were new tables, chairs, cabinets and accessories.

and Fleet Street intersection, and a sign alerting drivers of pedestrians crossing at the intersection of Fleet Street and Park Road.

EDUCATION

Colleges, Universities & Professional Schools/within 30 miles: 52**
Junior Colleges & Technical Institutes/within 30 miles: 14**

Sidewalk Installation

Sidewalks were built on Beall Avenue, Argyle Street, Calvin Lane, Lynch Street and Ridgway Avenue. Staff will begin design on a third phase of sidewalk on Beall Avenue with construction scheduled for spring 2009.

Traffic Calming and Diversion

The Traffic and Transportation Division has completed work to install medians at Darnestown

HOUSING*

Median Home Price: \$463,700**
Total Households: 21,895

City Improves Lighting

The City has created a process for taking repair requests from residents when streetlights need repair. Lights are either City owned or Pepco owned. City lights are usually fixed within a few days; Pepco lights will take several weeks.

New streetlights were installed along the west side of Route 28 between Falls Grove Drive and Darnestown Road, and on Park Road under the railroad bridge. Staff replaced 26 streetlights along Tower Oaks Boulevard, installed 50 new streetlight fixtures and painted the light poles in the North Farm community.

Conduits and cables have been installed for 16 streetlights on Wootton Parkway between Route 355 and Edmonston Drive. In the spring, the Traffic and Transportation Division installed new photocells and fixtures; upgraded 80 streetlights; cleaned, painted and/or straightened

poles as needed in the College Gardens neighborhood.

In the coming year, the City will install approximately 100 new streetlights on the east side of Rockville.



Mayor Susan R. Hoffmann (left), along with Councilmembers Anne Robbins and John Britton, getting ready to celebrate at the City's annual Hometown Holiday event.

Installing and Upgrading Traffic Signals

The past two years, the Department of Public Works completed projects to activate a signal at Maryland Avenue and E. Middle Lane; and add a new traffic signal at Veirs Mill Road and Broadwood Drive, Richard

Montgomery High School and Fleet Street, and at Tower Oaks and West Lake.

Pedestrian countdown signals were added at Route 28 and Great Falls Road, North Stonestreet Avenue and Park Road and Route 28 and Laird Street. Several signals on N. Washington Street and on Wootton Parkway are scheduled for upgrades in the coming year.

Baltimore Road Intermodal Access Not Far Off

With the help of a Federal Grant, Rockville will improve the accessibility and connectivity on the just more than 2-mile stretch of Baltimore Road between the City limits and Town Center. Plans will allow people to drive, walk, bike, or take transit between several existing and planned landmarks, transportation facilities, community facilities, religious centers, shopping centers and residential areas. A new sidewalk along Broadwood Drive between Fletcher Place and Baltimore Road will be installed. The project is planned in two consecutive stages and construction is scheduled for fiscal year 2010. ■



The Lincoln Park Community Center received a visit from Ty Pennington and ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition.

Keeping Our Students Safe

The City installed new crossing signs, replaced faded crosswalks and installed and modified existing traffic devices to ensure pedestrian safety in school zones. Rockville also made several improvements to the roads near Richard Montgomery High School, including a countdown traffic signal at the intersection of Fleet Street and Richard Montgomery Drive, medians and stop signs at the Jefferson Plaza

Road and Glenora Road intersection, speed indicator and traffic signs during non-peak hours along Grandin Avenue, and a pedestrian refuge island, new crosswalks and sidewalks at Great Falls Road and Monument Avenue.

The Twinbrook Commons will have a traffic-calming device installed. A sidewalk for the Beall's Grant project was designed to reduce the crossing distance of the street in the coming year. ■

Awards/Honors/Grants

Rockville Channel 11 Recognized

Rockville Channel 11 received numerous awards during fiscal year 2008. The National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) honored three programs for excellence in government programming including two Rockville City Police television programs and Rockville Channel 11's 2007 City Election coverage. This was the 14th consecutive year that Rockville Channel 11 has won a national award for its programming, despite competing in some categories against the cable channels of the nation's largest cities. Find a monthly schedule of programming in Rockville Reports and on the City Web site, www.rockvillemd.gov, scroll down the right column and click on Rockville Channel 11.

Financial Award Given

The City received the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award from the Government Finance Officers Association in July for Fiscal Year 2007.

The report summarized financial information from July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007. This was the first year that the City created and published the Popular Annual Financial Reporting document. Its purpose is to make the City's financial information more accessible to residents.

The City received a total score of 90.23 percent based on three independent reviews. A new Popular Annual Financial Report summarizing the City's financial information from July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008, will be published in November/December after the City receives the audited financial numbers for the period.

Rockville Reports Honored

Rockville Reports, the City's monthly newsletter, was awarded the Silver Circle Award from the City-County Communications and Marketing Association, a national association of government communication professionals.

Safe Routes to School Grant

The City of Rockville Public Works Department, in conjunction with Rockville City Police and the Recreation and Parks Department, are participating in the Safe Routes To School Grant program. The grant is awarded for teaching Bicycle and Pedestrian Education as well as encouraging fitness among students.

The program encourages safety improvements near schools through sidewalk installation, speed reduction devices and education strategies. The Traffic and Transportation Division of Public Works received \$250,000 for the Beall Avenue sidewalk between Lynch Street and Owens Street, and grant for the Great Falls and Monument pedestrian refuge island.

Glenview Added to National Register of Historic Places

Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park was added to the National Register of Historic Places. The recognition lists Glenview Mansion as a significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture.

The National Register of Historic Places is the country's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. It is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect the country's historic and archeological resources.

Glenview Mansion is a 19th century neoclassical home situated on 153 acres at Rockville Civic Center Park. Its hilltop location and stately

white columns offset a stone façade exterior making the mansion an attractive place to visit and a desired site to host social gatherings.

Arts Awarded in Rockville

- Rockville Arts Awards, sponsored by the Mayor and Council and the Cultural Arts Commission, honored Marianne Mullan, Rockville Student Achievement in the Arts; Judy Holland, Volunteer Support to the Arts; and Dr. Vincent Patterson, Lifetime Achievement in the Arts. The awards honor individuals, arts organizations and arts patrons for their involvement and support for the arts in Rockville.
- A Maryland State Arts Council Grant was awarded to the City for \$35,000.
- The Mural painted by Rockville residents at the Rockville Music Festival was funded by contributions of private developers through the "Publicly Accessible Art in Private Development" ordinance.

Recreation Services

Several of the City's recreational services received grants or were recognized for outstanding efforts.

- The Sister City Friendship Bridge at I-270 and Route 28 was recognized for "Outstanding Excellence in Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning" by One Less Car of Maryland
- Maryland Recreation and Parks Association awarded agency showcase awards for the Nature Center Facility Brochure and Best Photograph categories.
- Montgomery County Public Schools donated a 25-passenger school bus for recreational trips, special events and after school programs.
- \$13,000 grant from MCAEL

(Montgomery Coalition for Adult English Literacy) for development of ESOL curriculum for Rockville seniors beginning in fiscal 2009

- Montgomery County Under 21 Activity Fund grant for Latino soccer team at Rockville High School.
- Rockville Jaycees provided donation of \$2,500 to Maryvale Linkages to Learning program used for back-to-school supplies.

Parks and Facilities

Several of the City's parks and facilities earned honors.

- King Farm Hay-drying Shed was awarded the 2008 Montgomery County Award for Historic Preservation.
- National Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA
- National Arbor Day Foundation Tree City Growth Award
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources PLANT Growth Award

Historic Preservation

- Preserve America Community Status, 2008 -- Preserve America Community Grant, Historic Building Inventory and Building Catalog Grant, \$20,000, 2008-09. A copy of the final Historic Building Catalog will be provided to every historic property owner in Rockville to recognize the stewardship of the City's historic resources.
- Rockville Cemetery Brochure, 2008 -- Montgomery County Planning Department grant for \$1,000; Heritage Montgomery Grant, \$1,500
- Certified Local Government Historic District Commission training on "Substitute Materials," grant \$750. ■



MAYOR
Susan R. Hoffmann

COUNCILMEMBERS
John B. Britton
Piotr Gajewski
Phyllis R. Marcuccio
Anne M. Robbins

CITY MANAGER
Scott Ullery

DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
Catherine Tuck Parrish

CITY CLERK/TREASURER
Claire F. Funkhouser

CITY ATTORNEY
Paul T. Glasgow

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
Susan Swift

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
Gavin Cohen

DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY
Michael Q. Cannon

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Carlos A. Vargas

CHIEF OF POLICE
T.N. Treschuk

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
Craig Simoneau

DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND PARKS
Burton R. Hall

CITY OF ROCKVILLE VISION STATEMENT

Rockville residents and customers recognize the City as providing premium quality, responsive, high value municipal services. We create and recreate our organization to anticipate and serve the current and future needs of our dynamic community.

City of Rockville
111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850
240-314-5000 • www.rockvillemd.gov

Guide to Your City Government

General Info.....	240-314-5000
TTY.....	240-314-8137
Citizen Service Requests.....	240-314-8139
Police Emergency.....	911
Police Routine.....	240-314-8930
Animal Control.....	240-314-8930
Building/Electrician/Plumbing/ Occupancy Permits.....	240-314-8240
City Elections/Election 2009.....	240-314-8280
City Employment.....	240-314-8470
Community Services/Emergency Assistance.....	240-314-8310
Environmental Questions.....	240-314-8870
Fire Marshal's Office.....	240-314-8240
Graffiti Hotline.....	240-314-8477
Housing Assistance Programs.....	240-314-8200
Landlord/Tenant Program.....	240-314-8219
Mayor and Council/City Clerk.....	240-314-8290
Mediation Program.....	240-314-8316
Neighborhood Resources.....	240-314-8340
Pollution (spills) Hotline.....	240-314-8348
Property Maintenance Concerns.....	240-314-8330
Rec. and Parks General Info.....	240-314-8620
Refuse/Recycling/Leaf Collection.....	240-314-8568

Senior Citizen Services.....	240-314-8800
Street Light/Traffic Signal Outage.....	240-314-8500
Street/Sidewalk/Snow Removal.....	240-314-8566
Street Tree Maintenance.....	240-314-8700
Water/Sewer 24-Hour Line.....	240-314-8567
Utility Billing.....	240-314-8420
Victim Assistance.....	240-314-8917
Weather line-Rec Programs.....	240-314-5023
Weather line-Sports.....	240-314-5055

Recreation and Camp Guides

Winter 2009.....	Mailed Monday, Dec. 1
Camps 2009.....	Mailed Friday, Jan. 16
Spring 2009.....	Mailed Tuesday, Feb. 19
Summer 2009.....	Mailed Tuesday, May 12

Refuse and Recycling Holiday Schedule

New Year's Day: No Collection; **Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday:** No refuse, yard waste, or Christmas tree collection; other recycling collected as usual; **Presidents' Day:** Regular Collection; **Memorial Day:** No Collection; **Independence Day:** No Collection; **Labor Day:** No Collection; **Election Day:** Regular Collection; **Veterans' Day:** Regular Collection; **Thanksgiving:** Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008: No Collection; **Christmas Day:** No Collection

Residents scheduled for collection on holidays with no pick-up should hold their refuse and recycling until their next regular collection day. To learn more, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/refuse-recycling/.

Leaf Collection

The City collects leaves for residents every fall and spring. The Department of Public Works provides two pick-ups during a 10-week period for residents between mid-October and December and once during a two-week period in April. The City is divided into five pick-up areas. The schedule and map can be found online at www.rockvillemd.gov/residents/leaf.htm.

Annual Events

January: Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration; Glenview Mansion Bridal Expo; Camp Registration begins
February: Human Rights Essay Contest begins; African American Heritage Production; Heart-to-Heart Valentine's Day Dance
March: Mayor for the Day Essay Contest; March Madness Basketball Tournament; Rockville Student Art Show

April: Eggstravaganza; Rockville Science Day; Earth Day Celebration; RedGate Summer Hours begin (April-October)
May: Hometown Holidays -- Memorial Day weekend; Memorial Day parade; Thursday night Concerts on the Square; Growers' Only Farmers Market (May-June); Taste of Rockville; Ride and Stride for Rockville; Asian Pacific American Heritage Month; Senior Center Spring Bazaar; Mother's Day Royal Tea Party -- Twinbrook Community Center; Rockville Chorus/Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra Spring Performance
June: Out-to-lunch Wednesdays begin; Movies on the Square; Flag Day ceremony (June 14, 2009); Public Safety Awards; Sculpture on the Grounds -- Glenview Mansion; Concert Band/Youth Orchestra performances
July: Independence Day Celebration; Mattie Stepanek Week (July 7-13); Good Neighbor Awards; Twilight Rotary Runfest (July 18, 2009)
August: National Night Out (First Tuesday of August); Back to School Jam (Lincoln Park Community Center school supplies drive); Sunday Afternoon Concert Series
September: Volunteer Appreciation Party; Wine and Music Festival; Doggie Dip Day; Community

Health Fair -- this is held every year, but was held in November last year.
October: Antique and Classic Car Show (Oct. 18, 2008); Croydon Creep; American Indian Festival; DarCars Halloween Young Run; F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference
November: 10K/5K Run; Civic Ballet
December: Holiday Concerts; Senior Center Bazaar; Home for the Holidays; Holiday Drive

Web site: www.rockvillemd.gov

*Data from the 2005 Census Update Survey, Research and Technology Center, Montgomery County Planning Department, M-NCPPC, June 2006.
**Data from CNN Money Magazine 100 Best Places to Live Ranking.